

What is claimed is:

1. A software installation method comprising the steps of:
storing information related to a constituent element of a computer system and software required for the constituent element, which correspond to each other, and also storing identification information for identifying a computer system, which is configured by a specified constituent element and supplied to a user, and system configuration information indicating that the computer system configured by the specific constituent element, which correspond to each other;

accepting from the user's computer system the identification information given to the user's computer system;
and

sending, to the user's computer system, software required for the specific constituent element of the user's computer system, on the basis of the system configuration information which corresponds to the accepted identification information.

2. The software installation method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

managing, for an individual user, a fee for the software sent to the user's computer system; and

collecting the fee from the user.

3. A software installation method comprising:

a first database for storing information related to a constituent element of a computer system and software required for the constituent element, which correspond to each other;

a second database for storing identification information for identifying a computer system which is configured by a specified constituent element and supplied to a user, and system configuration information indicating that the computer system configured by the specific constituent element, which correspond to each other;

an accepting means for accepting from the user's computer system the identification information given to the user's computer system;

first detecting means for detecting system configuration information which corresponds to the accepted identification information, with reference to the second database;

second detecting means for detecting software required for the specific constituent element which is indicated in the system configuration information, with reference to the first database; and

sending means for sending the detected software to the user's computer system.

4. A software installation method comprising the steps of:
sending identification information given to a first computer system to a second computer system;
accepting, in response to the above step, software

required for a specific constituent element, which is indicated in system configuration information which corresponds to the identification information sent from the second computer system; and

conducting specified setup processing in order to make the software accepted in the accepting step into an executable state.

5. The software installation method according to claim 4, wherein the first computer system reads and executes a specified installation software which is stored in a specified storage medium.

6. The software installation method according to claim 5, further comprising the step of storing software which the first computer system receives from the second computer system.

7. A storage medium having software stored thereon for making a computer system, which has a memory in which identification information is stored, execute the function of installing a specified software onto the computer system, wherein,

the software comprises the functions of:

sending the identification information to another computer system;

accepting, in response to the above function, software sent from the other computer system; and

conducting specified setup processing in order to make the accepted software into an executable state.

8. An installation system for a client/server system constituted by a first computer system and a second computer system, by which software is installed onto the first computer system,

wherein the first computer system comprises:

means for storing identification information for identifying an individual computer system;

means for connecting the first computer system itself to the second computer system and sending the identification information to the second computer system, in accordance with an recovery instruction given from a user; and

first accepting means for accepting software sent from the second computer system, and

wherein the second computer system comprises:

a first database for storing information related to a constituent element of the first computer system and software required for the constituent element, which correspond to each other;

a second database for storing identification information for identifying a computer system which is configured by a specified constituent element and supplied to a user, and system

configuration information indicating that the computer system configured by the specific constituent element, which correspond to each other;

second accepting means for accepting, from the user's computer system, the identification information given to the user's computer system;

accepting means for accepting the identification information sent from the first computer system;

first detecting means for detecting system configuration information which corresponds to the accepted identification information, with reference to the second database;

second detecting means for detecting software required for the specific constituent element which is indicated in the system configuration information, with reference to the first database; and

sending means for sending the detected software to the first computer system.